

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

LOIS CAPPS
23RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0522
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COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET



Congress of the United States House of Representatives

March 19, 2004

- DISTRICT OFFICES:
- ☐ 1411 MARSH STREET, SUITE 205
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401
(805) 546-8348
 - ☐ 1216 STATE STREET, SUITE 403
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101
(805) 730-1710
 - ☐ 141 SOUTH A STREET, SUITE 204
OXNARD, CA 93030
(805) 385-3440

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairperson
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612
Attention: Ms. Janet Diehl

Dear Mr. Morabito,

I am writing to express my strong support of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History's request for funding to support the new Sea Center on Stearns Wharf in Santa Barbara. This project will have enormous community, educational, and even commercial benefits as well as numerous environmental benefits.

The new Sea Center will offer unique hands-on experiences of discovery and will provide new opportunities to become "citizen scientists;" and to learn about public policy issues involving protection of marine environments. The Sea Center aims to inspire life-long passion for healthy oceans.

This emphasis on "citizen scientists" is part of a strong tradition of environmental awareness in Santa Barbara, the birthplace of the modern environmental movement in the U.S. I have sponsored legislation to protect the Santa Barbara Channel and the California Coast from oil drilling, watershed contamination and other threats. I am pleased to support the Sea Center in their efforts to further environmental education.

I ask that you give full and fair consideration to the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, consistent with all rules and regulations of the Coastal Conservancy in their request of \$350,000 for the Sea Center. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 805-730-1710.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lois Capps".

LOIS CAPPS
Member of Congress

LC:ce

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STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0035
(916) 319-2035
FAX (916) 319-2135

DISTRICT OFFICES
101 W. ANAPAMU STREET, SUITE A
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101
(805) 564-1649
FAX (805) 564-1651
701 E. SANTA CLARA STREET, SUITE 25
VENTURA, CA 93001
(805) 648-9943
FAX (805) 648-9946

Assembly California Legislature

HANNAH-BETH JACKSON
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRTY-FIFTH DISTRICT
CHAIR, NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

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JOBS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
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SELECT COMMITTEES
CHAIR, COASTAL PROTECTION
CO-CHAIR, TITLE IX
STATE BOARDS
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD



April 1, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chairperson
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612
Attention: Ms. Janet Diehl

Dear Mr. Morabito,

I am writing to express my continued support of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History's effort to rebuild the Sea Center on Stearns Wharf in Santa Barbara.

Several factors led the Museum to undertake reconstruction of the Sea Center. First, the harsh ocean environment has badly battered the existing facility, creating an urgent need for renovation or reconstruction. Second, the facility was simply too small, with precious little space dedicated for educational purposes. The old Sea Center could capture only a tiny fraction of the two million annual visitors to Stearns Wharf, and demand by school groups was far higher than could be accommodated. Finally, the Nature Conservancy decided to turn its adjacent facility on Stearns Wharf over to the Museum, providing an extraordinary opportunity to reconstruct and expand the Sea Center.

The Museum's Board of Trustees plans to create a facility that will allow for more extensive educational programs for both K-12 students and the general public on marine environments and the Santa Barbara Channel in particular. The board embarked upon a \$6.5 million campaign, which grew to \$8.1 million to cover the unexpected requirement of reconstructing the wharf itself. The fund-raising campaign currently has surpassed the original \$6.5 million. A grant of \$350,000 from the Coastal Conservancy would be a great help in reaching the required \$8.1 million.

I strongly urge you to support the effort to renew and renovate the Sea Center to better serve the people of California.

Very Truly Yours,

Hannah-Beth Jackson
Assemblymember, 35th District

HB1/jcr

R2

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EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support



City of Santa Barbara

City Council

www.ci.santa-barbara.ca.us

Marty Blum

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Council Member

Iya G. Falcone

Council Member

Roger L. Horton

Council Member

Helene Schneider

Council Member

Dan B. Secord

Council Member

Das Williams

Council Member

Tel: 805.564.5318

Fax: 805.564.5475

City Hall

De La Guerra Plaza

PO Box 1990

Santa Barbara, CA

93102-1990

April 1, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairperson
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612
Attention: Ms. Janet Diehl

Dear Mr. Morabito:

I am writing in support of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History's effort to revitalize the Sea Center on Stearns Wharf in Santa Barbara. When completed in December 2004, the new Sea Center will combine a stunning environmental setting with state-of-the-art exhibits to become a world-class marine science education and environmental center and a cornerstone attraction for Stearns Wharf and the Santa Barbara Waterfront.

The old Sea Center was a Santa Barbara favorite, especially among children, who visited Stearns wharf with their families or their school groups to be fascinated by the opportunity to experience close-up the marine world.

With more than double the capacity and many engaging activities, the revitalized Sea Center will have similar attractions, but an enormously larger impact for our community and our natural environment. School children, families, adults, locals, and visitors will all have new opportunities to learn about oceans, to discover ways to protect marine ecosystems, and to experience the fascination of real marine science research.

On behalf of the City and the people of Santa Barbara, I urge you to support the Museum's request for \$350,000 to help complete this worthy and important project in environmental education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marty Blum".

Marty Blum
Mayor

mblum@ci.santa-barbara.ca.us • bbarnwell@ci.santa-barbara.ca.us • ifalcone@ci.santa-barbara.ca.us

rhorton@ci.santa-barbara.ca.us • hshneider@ci.santa-barbara.ca.us • dsecord@ci.santa-barbara.ca.us • dwilliams@ci.santa-barbara.ca.us

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

NAOMI SCHWARTZ
Supervisor First District

SALUD CARBAJAL
Executive Staff Assistant

MARY ELLEN WYLIE
Administrative Assistant

ERIC FRIEDMAN
Administrative Assistant



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101
Telephone: (805) 568-2186
FAX: (805) 568-2534
E-mail:
nschwar@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

March 23, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairperson
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612
Attention: Ms. Janet Diehl

Dear Mr. Morabito,

I am writing in support of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History's request for a grant of \$350,000 from the California Coastal Conservancy to help fund revitalization of the Sea Center on Stearns Wharf in Santa Barbara.

The Sea Center is one of a small number of ocean-related museums on the West Coast. For the past 15 years over 70,000 people of all ages have visited the Sea Center on an annual basis, including every fifth grade student in Santa Barbara. The success of the Sea Center has made it unable to accommodate such a high demand and has unfortunately resulted in school groups being turned away and an inability to meet the general need of its visitors.

The museum decided to revitalize the Sea Center to allow for more extensive educational programs and more interactive exhibits. Among its goals is to double the number of students and the general public who will visit the center and participate in active research projects exploring the mysteries of the Santa Barbara Channel. This goal will be accomplished by the creation of new exhibits focused on participatory activities, advanced electronics and formation technology, and live interpretation by scientists, staff and volunteers.

The Santa Barbara community has demonstrated strong support for the revitalization of the Sea Center by donating more than 75% of the \$8 million total cost. I ask that the Coastal Conservancy assist the community in raising the remaining funds necessary to complete this project that will invest in environmental and conservation education.

Sincerely,

Naomi Schwartz
1st District Supervisor

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SANTA BARBARA REGION CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

March 19, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairperson
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612
Attention: Ms. Janet Diehl

Dear Mr. Morabito,

The Santa Barbara Region Chamber of Commerce strongly supports the Museum of Natural History's reconstruction of the Sea Center. Our 2,000 members represent large and small businesses throughout southern Santa Barbara County. Our board of business leaders has a proud history of working to assist a variety of non-profits as a way of giving back and ensuring the vitality of the community.

The Sea Center reconstruction is an especially important project. In addition to obvious community, educational, and environmental benefits, the Sea Center will truly be a cornerstone attraction on Stearns Wharf. It will thus greatly enhance Santa Barbara's waterfront district, providing a rewarding experience for residents and visitors alike.

On behalf of the Chamber, I urge you to grant the Museum's \$350,000 request to help complete this worthy community project.

Sincerely,



Steve Cushman
Executive Director

Telephone: 805/965-3023 Fax: 805/966-5954

924 Anacapa Street, Ste. 1, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Mailing Address: Post Office Box 299, Santa Barbara, CA 93102-0299

Visitor Center: One Garden Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101 • 805/965-3031

e-mail: sbchamb@sbchamber.org website: www.sbchamber.org



Santa Barbara School Districts

Deborah A. Flores, Ph.D.
Superintendent

March 16, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairperson
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612
Attention: Ms. Janet Diehl

Dear Mr. Morabito,

I am writing to support the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History's request for funding from the California Coastal Conservancy for the new Sea Center on Stearns Wharf.

Building on the old Sea Center's programs, the new facility promises to be a fun and important educational resource for Santa Barbara teachers and students. For years, bringing a class of children on a field trip to the Sea Center for hands-on lessons in marine science has been one of the highlights for many students. In particular, every fifth grader in the District went to the Sea Center as part of *Los Marineros*, the marine education program operated in partnership by the Museum and the District.

The new Sea Center promises to be an even greater resource for students at all age levels. Exciting new exhibits will provide interactive educational opportunities, offering students the unique experience of a working marine science lab. Students will participate in active research projects appropriate to their age, exploring the mysteries of the Santa Barbara Channel. Developing scientific understanding of the oceans, the new Sea Center will thereby inspire life-long passion, respect, and stewardship for the natural world.

Please recognize the value of the Sea Center to the students of Santa Barbara with your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deborah A. Flores".

Deborah A. Flores, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Administration Offices: • 720 Santa Barbara St. • Santa Barbara, CA 93101 • (805) 963-4331 • FAX (805) 962-3146

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EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

Santa Barbara Maritime Museum

113 Harbor Way, Suite 190, Santa Barbara, California 93109

Phone: (805) 962-8404; Fax: (805) 962-7634; E-mail: museum@sbbmm.org; WebSite: www.sbbmm.org

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Giorgio Perissinotto, Ph. D.

Brooke Sawyer, Ed.D.

Amanda Thomas

March 24, 2004

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairperson
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612
Attention: Ms. Janet Diehl

Dear Mr. Morabito:

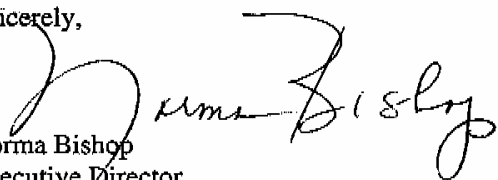
On behalf of the Trustees of the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum, I strongly support the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History's efforts to revitalize the Sea Center on Stearns Wharf.

The Maritime Museum is located at the harbor on Santa Barbara's waterfront, a few hundred yards from the Sea Center. As public benefit, cultural resources with complimentary missions, each institution presents an essential view of the fascinating and complex world above and below the sea along our coast.

The Maritime Museum and the Natural History Museum have recently signed a "Memorandum of Intent" that articulates a spirit of collaboration to serve Santa Barbara and Central Coast residents and visitors. This collaboration aims to enhance opportunities for Santa Barbara and Central Coast residents and visitors to experience the ocean, its inhabitants, and our maritime heritage.

In this spirit of collaboration, I urge the Coastal Conservancy to grant the request for \$350,000 for the Sea Center project.

Sincerely,


Norma Bishop
Executive Director

Please remember the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum in your will and estate plans.